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BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON
1944.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1944

J. S. G. BURNETT, M.D., D.P.H.,
ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON

1944.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR R. SCOTT.

Vice-Chairman :

ALDERMAN CLEGG-NEWTON, J.P. (*Deceased*).

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR—COUNCILLOR MRS. C. REDFERN, J.P.

ALDERMAN T. J. HILTON, J.P. (*Deceased*).

ALDERMAN F. L. KAY, J.P.

ALDERMAN T. COATES, J.P.

COUNCILLOR F. DAWSON, J.P. (*Deceased*).

COUNCILLOR MRS. C. FLETCHER, J.P.

COUNCILLOR W. HILTON.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE, TOGETHER WITH THE FOLLOWING
CO-OPTED LADIES :—

THE MAYORESS (MRS. F. L. KAY).

Mrs. ANNE HILTON, J.P.

Mrs. H. PARKES.

BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

H. L. SETTLE, M.Sc., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(On Military Service.)

Acting Medical Officer of Health :

†J. S. G. BURNETT, M.D., D.P.H.

Temporary Assistant Medical Officer of Health :

†MRS. V. SETTLE, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.

Obstetric Consultant :

*R. NEWTON, M.D., M.R.C.O.G.

Orthopædic Surgeon :

‡Miss M. F. JOHNSTONE, M.B., Ch.B.

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

‡P. A. HARRY, M.D., B.Ch.

Dental Surgeon :

‡A. E. BUTLER, L.D.S., R.C.S. (England).

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

T. TURNER, A.R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector :

S. HACKING, C.R.S.I.

Health Visitors :

Miss E. M. HARRISON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss T. DUNSCOMBE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Masseuses :

‡Miss E. G. LEE, C.S.M.M.G.

‡Miss D. J. MACGILL, C.S.M.M.G.

Clerical Staff :

Miss E. M. HOWARTH.

Miss A. DEAN.

Miss J. M. JACKSON.

Miss M. LOMAS. (H.M. Forces.)

*MRS. P. M. KEAN.

*MRS. R. B. COLLINS.

†These Officers function in a similar capacity for the Urban District Council of Chadderton.

‡Part-time Officers employed by the School Medical Committee, but whose services are available for Maternity and Child Welfare Cases.

*Part-time Officer.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
DURNFORD STREET,
MIDDLETON.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Middleton.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have to submit for your consideration a report on the health of the inhabitants of the Borough, and on the working of the Health Services during 1944.

As has been the experience elsewhere, the birth rate reached an abnormally high level—21.3 per 1,000 of the population. The factors resulting in this peak rate are short term in character and the rate is not likely to be maintained.

The death rate at 14.8 per 1,000 of the population is appreciably in excess of that for England and Wales at 11.6 and exceeds the local rate for 1943 by 0.9. The increase in deaths falls mainly in the group of respiratory diseases and it is to be deplored that ten infant deaths, practically one-third of the total occurring, fell within this group. Here, indeed, is unnecessary waste of human life. There was also an unexplained marked increase in deaths from diseases of the digestive system, particularly peptic ulcer in males. Maternal mortality dropped sharply from the high rates prevailing in recent years to 1.62 per 1,000 live and still births, a figure which is appreciably below that for England and Wales as a whole, viz., 1.93, and is the lowest figure for Middleton since 1936. This satisfactory result is coincidental with the reorganisation of the ante-natal service and is a direct reflex of the work carried out by the staff concerned.

During 1944 attention was given to improving general maternity and child welfare arrangements. The Council agreed to combine with Lancashire County Council and other welfare authorities in operating a joint scheme for the care of illegitimate children and, in so far as they were not already in operation, it was decided to implement the recommendations contained in Ministry of Health Circular 20/44 relating to the care of premature infants. A reasonably generous standard income scale, used to determine qualifications for financial assistance in connection with the various services provided by the authority, was put into operation, and the Council continues to provide Home and Domestic Help services, though these continue to be unsatisfactory because of a lack of suitable helps.

In accordance with the suggestions contained in Ministry of Health Circular 154/44, priority dockets to obtain sheets are now issued through the department to expectant mothers.

A 54-place non-residential day nursery, situated in a commodious house in Archer Park, which commenced to operate in November, 1943, functioned throughout the year. It quickly became popular and has provided an excellent service for mothers and their children. The average attendance has, in the main remained high, and I am fully satisfied that this nursery is fulfilling a useful function in shaping the development of those children in attendance.

The state of the drainage system needs little comment here. A special report relating to the unsatisfactory position existing in the Uplands area was submitted to the Health Committee and after a visit of inspection by an officer of the Ministry of Health, general approval of the Council's proposals for improving the conditions was given, but authority to proceed immediately with the work was withheld until labour and materials were available.

The important problem, in so far as the health of the inhabitants of Middleton is concerned, is that of housing. The immediate short term urgent need is for new houses to house those local people who, having married during the war, are now desirous of setting up a house and establishing family life in its true sense. As soon as this local need is satisfied, however, practical assistance must be given to that not insignificant body of local people living in houses unfit for human habitation. Probably some seven hundred houses would meet the immediate needs of local people who are houseless. After that demand has been met, the replacement of slum property requires consideration parallel with the provision of additional new houses.

An associated problem is the improvement of environmental conditions by the elimination of atmospheric pollution. It is now well recognised that the domestic chimney, no less than that of industry, plays its part in the production of that persistent pall of smoke that is so prominent a feature of South-East Lancashire. The present is an opportune moment for applying modern methods to domestic heating and cooking that will reduce atmospheric pollution by an appreciable amount, and at the same time give local authorities, as the principal property builders, an opportunity of demonstrating to industry their determination to eliminate this evil from the lives of the people.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. S. G. BURNETT,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Area of the Borough (acres) | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5,170.19 |
| Population at 1931 Census | ... | ... | ... | ... | 29,188 |
| Number of Inhabited Houses (according to rate books)... | | | | | 10,250 |
| Rateable Value for General Rate... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £164,723 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate | ... | ... | ... | ... | £659 |

BIRTHS.

| | | | | Total. | Male. | Female. |
|--------------|--------------|-----|-----|--------|-------|---------|
| LIVE : | Legitimate | ... | ... | 564 | 276 | 288 |
| | Illegitimate | ... | ... | 35 | 25 | 10 |
| | | | | — | — | — |
| | Total | ... | | 599 | 301 | 298 |
| | | | | — | — | — |
| STILL : | Legitimate | ... | ... | 17 | 9 | 8 |
| | Illegitimate | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | — |
| | | | | — | — | — |
| | Total | ... | | 18 | 10 | 8 |
| | | | | — | — | — |
| TOTAL BIRTHS | ... | ... | | 617 | 311 | 306 |
| | | | | — | — | — |

BIRTH RATES.

| | 1943. | 1944. |
|--|-------|-------|
| Live Births (per 1,000 estimated population)... | 17.2 | 21.3 |
| Still Births (per 1,000 live and still births) ... | 41.0 | 29.2 |
| Live and Still Births (per 1,000 estimated population) ... | 17.96 | 22.0 |

DEATH RATES.

(per 1,000 estimated population).

| | 1943. | 1944. |
|--|-------|-------|
| All causes (Crude) | 13.9 | 14.8 |
| Phthisis | 0.35 | 0.46 |
| Respiratory Diseases | 2.09 | 2.46 |
| Cancer | 1.91 | 2.07 |
| Heart Disease | 3.97 | 3.96 |
| Puerperal Causes (per 1,000 live and still births) :— | | |
| Puerperal Sepsis | 5.91 | 0.00 |
| Other Puerperal causes | 3.94 | 1.62 |
| Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :— | | |
| All infants per 1,000 live births | 61.0 | 53.0 |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births | 58.0 | 47.0 |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births | 120.0 | 142.0 |

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

| | 1943 | | 1944 | |
|---|------------------------------|------|------------------------------|------|
| | Middleton England and Wales. | | Middleton England and Wales. | |
| Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 civilian population) ... | 17.2 | 16.5 | 21.3 | 17.6 |
| Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 civilian population) ... | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.50 |
| Infant Mortality Rate ... | 61.0 | 49.0 | 53.0 | 46.0 |
| Maternal Mortality Rate :— | | | | |
| (a) From Puerperal Sepsis... | 5.92 | 0.39 | 0.00 | 0.28 |
| (b) From other causes ... | 3.94 | 1.9 | 1.62 | 1.65 |
| Total (a) and (b) ... | 9.86 | 2.29 | 1.62 | 1.93 |

DEATH RATES.

Per 1,000 Civilian Population :—

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|
| All causes | 13.9 | 12.1 | 14.8 | 11.6 |
| Measles | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.01 |
| Scarlet Fever | 0.35 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Whooping Cough | 0.35 | 0.03 | 0.00 | 0.03 |
| Diphtheria | 0.00 | 0.03 | 0.07 | 0.02 |
| Influenza | 0.21 | 0.37 | 0.00 | 0.12 |

Per 1,000 Live Births :—

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|------|-------|------|
| Deaths under 1 year of age... | 61.0 | 49.0 | 53.00 | 46.0 |
| Diarrhoea under 2 years of age | 8.2 | 5.3 | 6.7 | 4.8 |

DEATHS.**CAUSES OF DEATH IN MIDDLETON M. B., 1944.**

| Causes of Death : | | | | | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|----------|--------|
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| Cerebro-spinal Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | I | — | I |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | ... | I | I | 2 |
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 | 7 | 13 |
| Other forms of Tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | — | 3 |
| Syphilitic Diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | I | I |
| Influenza | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| Measles | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | I | I |
| Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| Acute Infectious Encephalitis | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| Cancer | ... | ... | ... | ... | 33 | 25 | 58 |
| Diabetes | ... | ... | ... | ... | I | 3 | 4 |
| Cerebral Hæmorrhage | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 | 22 | 39 |
| Heart Disease | ... | ... | ... | ... | 55 | 56 | 111 |
| Other Circulatory Diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 | 4 | 9 |
| Bronchitis... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22 | 22 | 44 |
| Pneumonia | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 | 5 | 19 |
| Other Respiratory Diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 | — | 6 |
| Peptic Ulcer | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 | 2 | 14 |
| Diarrhœa under 2 years... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Appendicitis | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| Other Digestive Diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 | 2 | 12 |
| Nephritis | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| Puerperal Sepsis | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| Other Maternal Causes | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | I | I |
| Premature Birth | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 7 | 11 |
| Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, etc. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Suicide | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| Road Traffic Accidents | ... | ... | ... | ... | I | I | 2 |
| Other Violence | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | 2 | 2 |
| All other Causes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 | 24 | 37 |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | ... | 216 | 199 | 415 |

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. STAFF.

Full details of the Staff of the department are given at the beginning of this report.

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Complete facilities are available at the Public Health Laboratory of the Manchester University.

During 1944 the following specimens were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory :—

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Swabs for S. Hæmolyticus | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Swabs for B. Diphtheriæ | ... | ... | ... | 33 |
| Sputum for B. Tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Blood for Agglutination Reaction | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| Fæces for Culture | ... | ... | ... | 47 |
| Mouse for Salmonella Infection | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Milk for Enteric Organisms | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Milk for B. Tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | 31 |
| Milk for Methylene Blue Test | ... | ... | ... | 36 |
| Water for Bacteriological Examination | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Water for Chemical Examination | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| | | | | 180 |

3. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Two ambulances are provided by the Borough Council for the removal of non-infectious cases, medical maternity or accident. The ambulance service is under the direct control and supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

During the year 1944 the following cases were conveyed by the above vehicles :—

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Accident cases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 102 |
| Medical cases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 505 |
| Deaths | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| | | | | | | 621 |

For the removal of cases of infectious diseases to Isolation Hospitals, a special ambulance is maintained by the Health Department. During the year 73 cases were removed by this ambulance. In addition, the Rochdale County Borough ambulance removed 18 infectious cases from the Borough to Marland Isolation Hospital.

4. HOSPITAL ARRANGEMENTS.

There are no hospitals situated within this Borough, which is, however, well served by numerous institutions in the surrounding areas. General medical and surgical cases receive attention at the Voluntary Hospitals in Manchester, Oldham and Rochdale, and also at the Boundary Park General Hospital, Oldham. Maternity cases are admitted to Boundary Park Hospital, Oldham, St. Mary's Hospital, and North Manchester Maternity Home, Manchester. Arrangements for hospital treatment are usually made by the patient's own doctor.

5. MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

Four full-time County Council Midwives are resident in the Borough. The midwives are available to act in the capacity as either midwife or maternity nurse, as required.

6. HEALTH VISITORS.

Two Health Visitors, who also act as School Nurses, are employed by the Borough Council. During the year 2,393 visits were made to the homes of pre-school children, details of which follow :—

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-------|--------------|
| Primary visits—under one year | ... | ... | 598 | |
| " " 1—5 years | ... | ... | 10 | |
| | | | ———— | Total, 608 |
| Re-visits —under one year | ... | ... | 723 | |
| " " 1—5 years | ... | ... | 1,062 | |
| | | | ———— | Total, 1,785 |

7. NURSING IN THE HOME.

This is carried out by the Middleton District Nursing Association.

8. CLINIC ARRANGEMENTS.

Infant Welfare.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held weekly at Walker Street, Rhodes, the Reading Room, Middleton Junction, and the Health Centre, Durnford Street.

The following attendances were made at the Child Welfare Centres during the year :—

| Name of Centre : | Total Attendances. | | No. of individual Babies who attended. | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--|---------------|
| | 0—1 year. | 1—5 years. | 0—1 year. | 1—5 years. |
| Durnford Street Clinic ... | 3,049 | 651 | 191 | 219 |
| Rhodes Clinic ... | 1,316 | 697 | 57 | 67 |
| Middleton Junction Clinic ... | 1,271 | 339 | 80 | 96 |
| Total ... | 5,636 | 1,687 | 328 | 382 |

As previously reported, the premises at Middleton Junction and Rhodes are unsatisfactory for clinic purposes.

The Assistant Medical Officer attends the clinics and gives advice to mothers on feeding babies, etc. Defects found, if of a minor character, are treated at the clinics, but otherwise the parent is referred to the family doctor for further attention.

A number of infants attending the clinics are found to be suffering from minor orthopædic defects. These cases are referred to the Remedial Clinic for treatment.

Provision is also made for dental and ultra-violet light treatment of pre-school children, when necessary, at the School Dental and Artificial Sunlight Clinics.

Vitamin concentrates for infants continue to be provided, although the demand for these has been somewhat reduced owing to the national scheme whereby cod-liver oil and fruit juice concentrate are supplied to all children under two years of age. Where infants are found unable to tolerate these preparations, alternative proprietary articles are available at the clinic. No difficulty has been experienced in obtaining supplies of dried milk.

SPECIAL TREATMENT CLINICS.

Artificial Sunlight.

Since the return of the Artificial Sunlight Clinic to the Health Centre, it has been possible to hold this clinic three times weekly. Three Mercury Vapour Lamps are now available. A satisfactory standard of attendance has been maintained, 107 children making 1,768 attendances.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

During the year 80 pre-school children made 463 attendances at the Remedial Clinic for Massage and/or Exercises, etc. The defects treated include valgus ankles, flat feet, knock-knee, and bow-leg. The Remedial Clinic is held twice per week.

Ophthalmic Clinic.

The services of the School Ophthalmic Surgeon are available to pre-school children who require treatment for ophthalmic conditions. Glasses, if necessary, are prescribed and in necessitous cases financial assistance is given towards their provision. During the year 40 children were examined and glasses were prescribed in 24 cases.

Dental Treatment.

The School Dental Service is available for the treatment of pre-school children. During the year 12 pre-school children received treatment at the clinic, making 18 attendances.

It is recommended that, as soon as may be, this service be modernised by the addition of an electrically-driven dental engine, the provision of apparatus for administering gas and oxygen anæsthesia and the appointment of an anæsthetist.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

A weekly Ante-natal Clinic was established in July, 1943, at the Durnford Street Health Centre. The routine sessions are attended regularly by the Assistant Medical Officer of Health, and the Obstetric Consultant attends on the second Monday of each month.

| No. of Patients. | | | Attendances. | | |
|------------------|-------------|--------|--------------|-------------|-------|
| Ante-Natal. | Post-Natal. | Other. | Ante-Natal. | Post-Natal. | Other |
| 239 | 9 | 2 | 1,054 | 12 | 3 |

9. DENTAL TREATMENT FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

Expectant Mothers can obtain dental treatment from the School Dental Officer on application. Little use has been made of this service, however, and during the year only 7 expectant mothers attended the clinic.

10. HOME HELPS.

Financial assistance towards the cost of "Home Helps" is provided in necessitous cases, and during the year 2 cases received such assistance.

It was not found possible during 1944 to obtain regular home helps, and the service provided was highly unsatisfactory in consequence.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Scabies Treatment Clinic.

During the year the incidence of Scabies has again increased, and the additional facilities at the Health Centre have been fully used.

Affected persons, including all family contacts, are offered treatment at the Health Centre, and a good response has been obtained. Where adequate bathing facilities are available at home, suitable preparations and instructions in their use are supplied, and the patients are kept under supervision. Where home facilities are unsatisfactory, the treatment is carried out by the Health Visitors at the Health Centre. The local Medical Practitioners have co-operated and have referred cases to the Clinic for treatment. Details of the number of individuals, including family contacts, treated are as follows :—

Age Distribution.

| | Treated at Home. | Treated at Clinic. | Treated elsewhere, e.g., Hospital. | Total. |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--|--------|
| Pre-school ... | 4 | 53 | 2 | 59 |
| School children | 7 | 189 | 6 | 202 |
| Adults ... | 112 | 120 | 7 | 239 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total | 123 | 362 | 15 | 500 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |

The preparations used are Ascabiol, Kathiolan and Sulphur.

Verminous Conditions.

Attention to louse infestation has continued throughout the year. Most of these cases are discovered amongst the school populace, and wherever possible adult and pre-school contacts are also examined and advised regarding treatment. During the year the following cases were dealt with at the Health Centre :—

Cleansed at Clinic.

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| Pre-school children | ... | ... | 0 |
| School children | ... | ... | 34 |
| Adults | ... | ... | 2 |
| | | | <hr/> |
| | | | 36 |
| | | | <hr/> |

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA, ETC.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Sewage from this Borough is treated by Manchester Corporation.

WATER SUPPLY.

The town is supplied with water by the Heywood and Middleton Joint Water Board. The supply is upland surface water, of good quality. Details of the catchment area and reservoir installations have been given in previous Reports.

No additional mains have been laid in the district during the year.

| | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| No. of houses supplied by the Joint Board | ... | 10,255 |
| No. of baths in Borough | | 5,137 |

During the year 1 full chemical and 12 bacteriological examinations were carried out by the Heywood and Middleton Joint Water Board. These were found to be satisfactory.

A small number of outlying farms have independent water supplies from wells.

SANITARY SERVICES.

Closet Accommodation.

The following is a list of the types of closets existing in the Borough at the end of the year :—

| | | |
|---------------------|--------|-------|
| Privy Middens | ... | 63 |
| Pail Closets | | 214 |
| Waste-water Closets | . | 2,890 |
| Fresh-water Closets | ... | 6,010 |

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Refuse collection and disposal is carried out by the Cleansing Department. An efficient Salvage Plant and Destructor are available. The following information has been supplied by the Chief Sanitary Inspector who is also Cleansing Superintendent.

Refuse Collection.

Difficulties in the regular collection of house refuse were experienced during the year owing to acute shortage of labour, severe weather conditions during the winter, and shortage of reliable transport.

Two motor vehicles (one 1928 S.D. Freighter and one 1930 Ford) which had become worn-out and no longer serviceable were replaced by two "Karrier" Refuse Collecting vehicles.

There are approximately 6,507 movable ashbins, 1,398 ashpits, 354 wall-type dustbins and 214 pail closets in the Borough. Ashbins and pail closets are emptied weekly and ashpits fortnightly.

The majority of the pail closets are in connection with premises in the villages of Bowlee and Birch, which are not sewered.

The net cost of Refuse Collection for the financial year ended 31st March, 1945, was £4,558.

Refuse Disposal.

The whole of the refuse collected, with the exception of "pail" refuse, amounting to 6,973 tons, was dealt with at the Separation and Salvage Plant.

The cost of Refuse Disposal for the year amounted to £581.

Income from Sales of Salvage.

| | | | t. | c. | q. | £ | s. | d. |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-------|----|----|--------|----|----|
| Waste Paper | ... | ... | 159 | 4 | 0 | 1,022 | 16 | 8 |
| Light Scrap | ... | ... | 30 | 3 | 0 | 38 | 1 | 10 |
| Baled Scrap | ... | ... | 96 | 10 | 0 | 159 | 4 | 8 |
| Non-ferrous metals | ... | ... | — | | | — | | |
| Textiles | ... | ... | 13 | 7 | 3 | 118 | 17 | 0 |
| Rubber | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 16 | 3 |
| Bones | ... | ... | 3 | 12 | 2 | 17 | 4 | 6 |
| Kitchen Waste | ... | ... | 194 | 3 | 3 | 291 | 5 | 9 |
| Broken Glass | ... | ... | 12 | 4 | 0 | 10 | 1 | 11 |
| Screened Fuel | ... | ... | 425 | 17 | 2 | 191 | 8 | 10 |
| Screened Dust | ... | ... | 3,777 | 10 | 0 | — | | |
| Total | ... | ... | 4,713 | 15 | 0 | £1,851 | 17 | 5 |

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following tables give details of the various inspections carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year :—

RECORD OF INSPECTIONS.

Public Health Act 1936.

Inspections
Made, etc.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Drainage work | 297 |
| Refuse removal | 269 |
| Water Samples taken | 2 |
| Sanitary Accommodation | — |
| Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. | 6 |
| Stables, Piggeries, etc. | — |
| Schools | 36 |
| Common Lodging Houses | 24 |
| Houses Let in Lodgings | 31 |
| Houses | 629 |
| Manure Dumps | 9 |
| Investigation and Removal of Patients | |
| Infectious Diseases | 186 |
| Disinfection | 11 |
| Scabies | 6 |
| Verminous Conditions and Disinfestation | 178 |
| Miscellaneous Visits and Re-visits | 93 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | 1,777 |

Housing Act 1936.

| | |
|---|----|
| Housing Defects | 68 |
| Measured for permitted number | 9 |
| Investigations Overcrowding | 16 |
| Miscellaneous Visits and Re-visits | 21 |

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Food and Drugs Act 1938.

| | |
|---|----|
| Samples taken—Milk designated for Bacteria... | 13 |
| Milk ordinary, for Bacteria ... | 39 |
| Food Preparing etc. Premises | 43 |
| Dairies | 18 |
| Cowsheds | 3 |
| Markets and Shops | 56 |
| Unsound Food | 74 |
| Miscellaneous Visits and Re-visits | 89 |

Total 335

Factories Act, 1937.Inspections
Made, etc.

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Factories with Power | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23 |
| Bakehouses | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
| Total... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 35 |

Shops Acts.

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Hours of Closing... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil. |
| Health, etc. (Sec. 10) | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil. |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Diseases of Animals Acts | ... | ... | ... | 58 |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.

| | | | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Rat Infestation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 105 |
| Mice Infestation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| Total... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 121 |

Miscellaneous Visits.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-------|
| Re-inspection where Notices in force | ... | ... | 548 |
| Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc. | ... | 269 | |
| Works in progress | ... | ... | 55 |
| Public Conveniences | ... | ... | 126 |
| Meetings | ... | ... | 39 |
| Tip and Salvage Depot | ... | ... | 616 |
| Salvage and Refuse Collection | ... | ... | 149 |
| Air Raid Precautions Duties | ... | ... | 22 |
| Air Raid Shelters | ... | ... | 15 |
| Other Visits | ... | ... | 81 |
| Total... | ... | ... | 1,920 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Total Number of Visits | ... | ... | ... | 4,360 |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|

Complaints.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| No. of Complaints during the year | ... | ... | 569 |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|

Notices.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Informal Notices served | ... | ... | 453 |
| Informal Notices complied with | ... | ... | 412 |
| Statutory Notices served | ... | ... | 7 |
| Statutory Notices complied with | ... | ... | 6 |

Work carried out in compliance with Notices.

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Drains cleared | ... | ... | ... | ... | 135 |
| Drains repaired or re-constructed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 35 |
| Rainwater Pipes repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |
| New Water-closets installed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Water Closets repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 45 |
| Eaves-gutters repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 35 |
| Sinks provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Bins provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28 |
| Roofs repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 61 |
| Other Nuisances abated... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 97 |
| Plasterwork repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| Skirting Boards repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Rising Dampness remedied | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Fire-ranges repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Floors repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Sash-cords repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Dampness remedied | ... | ... | ... | ... | 90 |
| Waste Pipes remedied | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |

FACTORIES ACT 1937.

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----------|---|
| Defects found | ... | ... | ... | 7 | |
| Notices served :— | | | | | |
| (a) Sanitary Defects | ... | ... | 7 | Remedied, | 7 |
| (b) Other Defects | ... | ... | — | „ | — |

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

| | |
|---|----|
| (a) No. of Council Houses found to be infested | — |
| „ „ „ disinfecting... .. | — |
| (b) No. of other Houses found to be infested... | 22 |
| „ „ „ disinfecting | 22 |

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED.

Chopped Pork, $2\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. ; Pork Luncheon Meat, 1 qr. 25 lbs. ; Stewed Steak, 2 qrs. 17 lbs. ; Luncheon Meat, 1 qr. $13\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. ; Pressed Beef, 4 lbs. ; Redi Meat, 3 lbs. ; Beef Loaf, 3 lbs. ; Pork Loaf, 12 lbs. ; Ox Tongue, 6 lbs. ; Sausage Links, 5 cwts. 1 qr. 20 lbs. ; Sausage, 1 qr. 14 lbs. ; Pork and Soya Links, 4 lbs. ; Soya Links, 1 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs. ; Bacon, 2 qrs. $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. ; Soup, 7 lbs. ; Mackerel, $1\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. ; Salmon, $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. ; Crayfish, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. ; Pilchards, 1 qr. 1 lb. ; Kippers, 14 lbs. ; Sultanas, 25 lbs. ; Plums, $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. ; Cauliflowers, 22 tons. 15 cwts. 3 qrs. 0 lbs. ; Tomato Puree, 4 tons, 5 cwts. 0 qr. 4 lbs. ; Tomato Paste, 4 tons, 17 cwts. 2 qrs. 1 lb. ; Prune Pulp, 1 ton, 19 cwts. 2 qrs. 9 lbs. ; Damsons, 1 lb. ; Peaches, $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. ; Baked Beans, 3 lbs. ; Butter, 9 lbs. ; Oranges, 2 qrs. 2 lbs. ; Barley, 16 lbs. ; Oatmeal, 1 cwt. 1 qr. 0 lbs. ; Sausage Rusk, 1 ton ; Beef and Pork Trimmings, 10 lbs.

Pilchards, 44 tins ; Peas, 5 tins ; Carrots, 2 tins ; Full Cream Milk, 67 tins ; Evaporated Milk, 196 tins ; Skimmed Milk, 31 tins ; Kippers, 2 boxes ; Fish, 77 cakes ; Sausage, 250 rolls.

(b) MILK SUPPLY.

Milk and Dairies Order 1926.

| | |
|--|----|
| No. of Cowkeepers registered in the district ... | 69 |
| No. of Retail Milk Sellers registered | 34 |
| No. of Cowshed Inspections during the year ... | 84 |

Samples of milk were taken from producers and retail purveyors of milk for examination by the methylene blue test with the following results :—

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Satisfactory | 36 |
| Unsatisfactory | 13 |

50 samples of ordinary milk were submitted for biological test for Tubercle Bacilli. Two were found to contain Tubercle Bacilli, the remainder being satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1936 and 1938.

The Lancashire County Council is the Licensing Authority under the above Orders with respect to the production of "Accredited" and "Tuberculin Tested" Milk and the following licences have been issued and are at present in force in the Borough:

No. of Licences to produce "Tuberculin Tested" Milk ... Nil.

(a) To produce only „

(b) To produce and bottle „

No. of Licences to produce "Accredited" Milk ... 3

(a) To produce only —

(b) To produce and bottle 3

Licences to dealers in Designated Milk were issued by the Local Authority, as follows:—

No. of Licences to deal in "Pasteurised Milk" ... 1

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Provision is made for the admission of cases of infectious disease to the Marland Isolation Hospital of the Rochdale Borough Council. Smallpox cases are admitted to Ashton-under-Lyne Smallpox Hospital, by arrangement.

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.

| Infectious Diseases. | No. | Removed to Hospital. | *Deaths in Hospital. |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Scarlet Fever | 89 | 70 | — |
| Diphtheria | 12 | 11 | 1 |
| Pneumonia | 25 | 1 | 11 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... | 1 | 1 | — |
| Cerebro-spinal Fever | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | — | — | — |
| Erysipelas | 3 | — | — |
| Measles | 491 | — | — |
| Whooping Cough | 166 | — | — |
| Dysentery | 1 | — | — |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | 1 | 1 | — |
| | <hr/> 790 | <hr/> 85 | <hr/> 13 |

*Including inward Transfers.

Scarlet Fever.

Scarlet Fever continued in endemic form in the Borough during the whole of 1944, though there was a sharp drop in the number of cases to 89, representing little over half the number of cases occurring in 1943. The disease was generally mild in character and no death occurred.

Diphtheria.

Sporadic cases occurred during the year, 12 cases being notified. One girl, age five years, died in hospital from severe Faucial Diphtheria, and one child died at home, death being ascribed to Laryngeal Diphtheria. Neither case had been immunised against Diphtheria.

Immunisation continues to be practised vigorously, 450 children being immunised through the medium of the local authority's scheme, and a further 80 children are known to have been dealt with by private practitioners.

The accompanying table shows the extent of Diphtheria Immunisation carried out through the medium of the Local Authority's scheme since its inception at the beginning of 1941.

It is estimated that, at the end of 1944, 55 per cent. of children under five years of age, and 78 per cent. of children between the ages of five and fifteen years, were immunised against Diphtheria.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is available to practitioners on request, and 5 phials of 20,000 units were so distributed.

Whooping Cough.

166 cases occurred during the year, almost all of the cases being under the age of five years. No death occurred.

Measles.

This was an epidemic year for Measles, but the total number of cases, 491, was less than expected. One death occurred from the disease.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION :

Persons inoculated each year from 1936—1944.

| Age at date of inoculation | 1936 | | 1937 | | 1938 | | 1939 | | 1940 | | 1941 | | 1942 | | 1943 | | 1944 | | |
|----------------------------|------|---|------|---|------|---|------|---|------|---|-------|----|-------|----|------|----|------|----|---|
| | *1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | |
| Under 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | — | 14 | 4 | 8 | 15 | 14 | Total inoculated under 5 years 31st Dec 1944 863. |
| 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 22 | 29 | 36 | 80 | 40 | 66 | 65 | 85 | |
| 1½ | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 3 | 1 | 7 | 23 | 12 | 19 | 47 | 9 | 21 | 17 | 25 | |
| 2 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 1 | — | — | 33 | 15 | 11 | 41 | 13 | 19 | 5 | 15 | |
| 2½ | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 42 | 15 | 13 | 54 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 5 | |
| 3 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 2 | 1 | 2 | — | — | 30 | 13 | 12 | 44 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 7 | |
| 3½ | — | 1 | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 34 | 9 | 11 | 38 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 5 | |
| 4 | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 40 | 14 | 12 | 37 | 4 | 14 | 1 | 4 | |
| 4½ | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 41 | 15 | 8 | 33 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 8 | |
| 5 | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 3 | 41 | 18 | 16 | 54 | 9 | 11 | 5 | 12 | Total inoculated aged 5 years 31st Dec 1944 2,487. |
| 5½ | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 52 | 19 | 15 | 44 | 6 | 16 | 5 | 13 | |
| 6 | — | 1 | 2 | 1 | — | 1 | — | 2 | — | — | 39 | 11 | 17 | 43 | 6 | 12 | 5 | 10 | |
| 6½ | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 48 | 9 | 22 | 44 | 6 | 6 | — | 6 | |
| 7 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | — | — | — | — | 43 | 12 | 23 | 30 | 6 | 12 | 1 | 6 | |
| 7½ | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 30 | 11 | 19 | 27 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 5 | |
| 8 | — | 1 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 36 | 12 | 13 | 28 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 5 | |
| 8½ | — | — | 2 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 32 | 5 | 17 | 27 | 3 | 13 | 1 | 11 | |
| 9 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | 27 | 10 | 19 | 33 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 7 | |
| 9½ | 1 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 39 | 12 | 26 | 26 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 5 | Total inoculated aged 5 years 31st Dec 1944 2,487. |
| 10 | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 24 | 3 | 21 | 30 | 9 | 11 | — | 2 | |
| 10½ | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 29 | 4 | 14 | 26 | 5 | 10 | 2 | 6 | |
| 11 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 33 | 4 | 22 | 31 | 6 | 20 | — | 3 | |
| 11½ | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 26 | 8 | 18 | 36 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 9 | |
| 12 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 29 | 11 | 8 | 30 | 2 | 10 | — | 12 | |
| 12½ | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 23 | 1 | 16 | 25 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 2 | |
| 13 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 29 | 9 | 18 | 16 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 9 | |
| 13½ | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 33 | 5 | 16 | 25 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 11 | |
| 14 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 6 | — | — | 4 | 2 | 1 | — | 2 | Total inoculated aged 5 years and over 31st Dec 1944 297. |
| 14½ | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total each yr. | 17 | | 26 | | 19 | | 18 | | 20 | | 1,174 | | 1,409 | | 514 | | 450 | | |

* 1 — January to June.

2 — July to December.

